

What is SHIP?

Since 1985, the Statewide Head Injury Program (SHIP) has pioneered publicly funded services for people with traumatic brain injury. SHIP is responsible for the provision of community-based, innovative services that support individuals with brain injury and their families. SHIP is a program of the Massachusetts Rehabilitation Commission's Community Services Program.

What is an externally caused brain injury?

An externally caused traumatic brain injury occurs when the brain is damaged from an external physical force. The head may be hit, strike a stationary object or be shaken violently. This may occur in a car accident, serious fall or by an act of violence. It may result in cognitive, behavioral or social impairments. Some examples of brain injury that are not externally caused and would not meet SHIP criteria are strokes, oxygen deprivation and brain tumors.

For more information, contact:

Statewide Head Injury Program
Fort Point Place
27 Wormwood Street, Suite 600
Boston, MA 02210-1616
(617) 204-3852 (voice)
(617) 204-3817 (TTY)
(800) 223-2559 (toll free)
(617) 204-3889 (fax)
E-mail: shipu@mrc.state.ma.us
www.mass.gov/mrc/ship/ship.htm



The Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990 (ADA) prohibits discrimination on the basis of disability in employment and public services provided by government agencies. If consumers or employees of the Massachusetts Rehabilitation Commission believe they have been discriminated against on the basis of disability, they should contact the Commission's Civil Rights Officer: Albert Jones, Jr., 27 Wormwood Street, Boston, MA 02210-1616, Telephone 617-204-3762 (Voice), 1-800-245-6543 (TTY).

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Massachusetts Rehabilitation Commission

Statewide Head Injury Program

Mitt Romney, *Governor*

Kerry Healey, *Lt. Governor*

Ronald P. Preston, *Secretary of
Health and Human Services*

Elmer C. Bartels, *Commissioner of
Rehabilitation*

Debra S. Kamen, *SHIP Director*

Eligibility

You may be eligible if you:

- Are a resident of Massachusetts, regardless of age
- Have a documented, externally caused traumatic brain injury
- Have related impairments resulting in cognitive, physical and/or behavioral functioning
- Are able to participate in community-based services

How to Apply

Anyone may contact SHIP and request an application. After an application is received, SHIP staff determine eligibility through a review of all available records related to the individual's head injury. Written notification is sent upon eligibility determination.

SHIP staff are available to discuss the application process and to answer any questions about services. Assistance with filling out the application is available upon request. Some materials may be available in other languages and formats.

Availability of SHIP Services

SHIP's budget, as well as access to the Head Injury Trust Fund, are determined by the State Legislature on an annual basis.

Services Available to Anyone:

- Information and referral
- Social and recreation programs
- General technical assistance and consultation by SHIP staff and clinical specialists
- Advocacy
- Guidance

Additional Services that may be Available to Eligible Applicants:

- Service coordination
- Regional Head Injury Centers
- Residential services
- Case management
- 1:1 skills training and support
- Substance abuse services
- Specialized evaluations
- Respite
- Assistive technology

Massachusetts Acquired Brain Injury Advisory Board (MABIAB)

MABIAB provides input to SHIP and other public agencies, promotes prevention and public awareness of brain injury and advocates for related funding.

MABIAB consists of persons with brain injury, families, state agencies and professionals concerned with brain injury prevention, care and services.

Massachusetts Brain Injury Association (MBIA)

SHIP was established primarily through the grassroots efforts of the members of MBIA. MBIA is a valuable resource for persons with all forms of brain injury and their families. Contact them regarding family, survivor and peer support, speaker's bureau, education and prevention workshops.

Mass. Brain Injury Association
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Worcester, MA 01608
Phone: (508) 795-0244
(800) 242-0030
www.mbia.net
Email: MBIA@MBIA.net